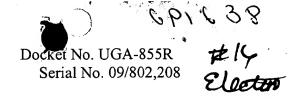
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on January 13, 2003

Timothy H. Van-Dyke, Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Parrot et al.

Examiner

Ashwin D. Mehta

RECEIVED

Art Unit

1638

JAN 23 7003

Docket No.

UGA-855R

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Serial No.

09/802,208

Filed

March 8, 2001

For

ARABITOL OR RIBITOL AS POSITIVE SELECTABLE

MARKERS

Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

Sir,

This is in response to the Office Action mailed in the captioned application on December 11, 2002, which set a shortened statutory response period of one month.

Remarks

Claims pending in this application are claims 1-18.

Restriction Election:

The claims in this application are subject to restriction into one of the following ten groups:

- I. Claims 1-15, drawn to a polynucleotide molecule comprising at least one gene of interest and at least one selectable marker from the group consisting of (a) SEQ ID NO, 3, 4, or 5, or functional fragments thereof, and (b) a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes with SEQ ID NO: 1 or 2; transgenic cells transformed with said polynucleotide molecule; a plant or plant tissue regenerated from the cells; a method of selecting transformed cells, classified in class 800, subclass 278, for example.
- II. Claim 16-18, drawn to polypeptide molecules, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

In response to the outstanding restriction requirement, election of Group I (claims 1-15) is hereby made without traverse, for examination on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to pursue non-elected groups upon indication of an allowable linking claim.

Applicants assert that all claims are in a condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any aspect of this response after entrance and consideration of the remarks presented herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy H. Van Dyke

Patent Attorney

Registration No. 43,218 CUSTOMER NO.: 29847 Phone No.: 407-240-0085

Fax No.: 407-240-1007